



**Kurt E. Floren**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights and Measures

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

### Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights and Measures

12300 Lower Azusa Road  
Arcadia, California 91006-5872  
<http://acwm.lacounty.gov>



**Richard K. Iizuka**  
Chief Deputy

DATE: September 18, 2012

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman, Third District  
Supervisor Gloria Molina, First District  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Second District  
Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Fifth District

FROM: Kurt E. Floren  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights and Measures

SUBJECT: **OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS IN CANOGA PARK AND ARLETA ON  
ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID DETECTIONS**

As reported in previous updates, Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) *Diaphorina citri*, a serious agricultural pest, was first detected in Los Angeles County in August 2009. It continues to be detected, prompting treatments by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). While there is a large contiguous area known to be infested, and there have been isolated detections of ACP in various parts of the County.

One of our primary concerns with ACP is that the species is a prime vector of the disease Huanglongbing (HLB), also known as citrus greening disease. To this date, there has only been one confirmed detection of HLB in California, in samples taken in Hacienda Heights. The infected tree was removed and analyzed. HLB is a devastating disease, presenting a severe threat to citrus trees and closely related species. It causes fruit to taste bitter or medicinal, can cause early dropping or misshaping of fruit, poor flowering, and stunted growth of trees. A diseased tree will decline in health until it dies and there is no cure once infected.

Since the first ACP detection in the County in 2009, CDFA has been treating properties at which the ACP specimens have been trapped together with nearby properties with host trees and plants, applying the pesticides cyfluthrin and imidacloprid to host plants and soil utilizing hand-held sprayers. CDFA has informed each property resident prior to such treatment. No aerial applications are being considered.

To discuss the treatment project and provide direct answers to questions from area residents, CDFA will hold an open house meeting in Canoga Park and another in North Hills for the Arleta area. The Canoga Park meeting will be Monday, September 24 at the Canoga Park/West Hills Chamber of Commerce Meeting Room, 7248 Owensmouth Avenue, Canoga Park, CA 91303

from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The North Hills meeting will be Wednesday, September 26, at Mid-Valley Regional Branch Library, 16244 Nordhoff Street, North Hills, CA 91343 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Notices and treatment area maps have been mailed to every address in the treatment areas (see attachments). Members of my staff will be in attendance at the open house meeting.

Naturally established in Asia, ACP has also been introduced to South America, Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Texas.

Please note that residents may be directed to call the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Pest Hotline at 1-800-491-1899 if they believe that they have found a specimen of ACP or any other exotic insect pest.

We will continue to inform the respective City Managers and your Board offices in the areas involved to enable staff to answer questions from the public.

I will continue to update you as details become available and warrant an update.

KEF:kp

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer  
Georgia Mattera, Manager, Public Safety Cluster  
Sachi Hamai, Executive Officer  
Board Deputies